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11th Nov 1989
No. 54 40p

A Thomas DICE GAME 1st part inside!

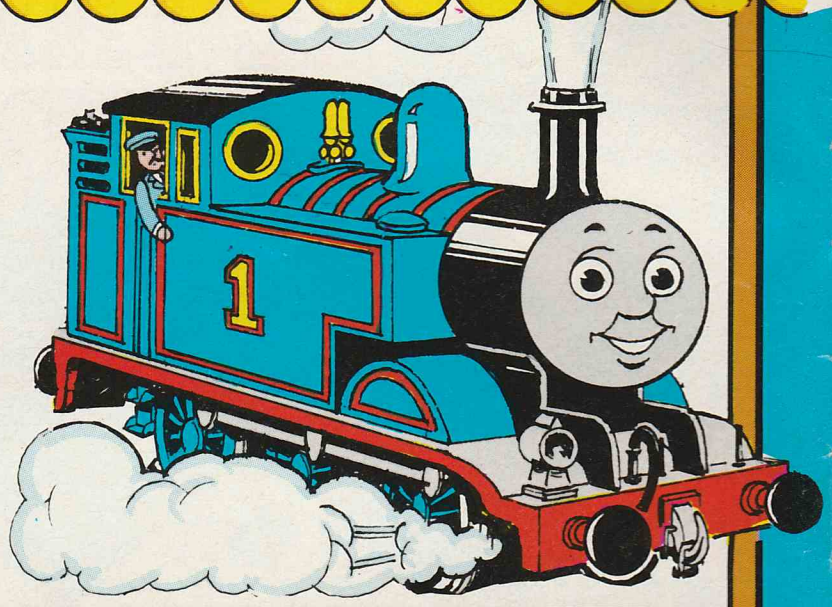
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Be safe and sound on Bonfire Night!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! In this issue, Thomas is surprised to see many more passengers than usual waiting at the main station. They are holidaymakers, and have planned to go camping on the Island of Sodor. What an ideal place for a holiday! Peep! Peep!



EVERY ISSUE!

By taking out a subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** every issue will be sent straight to your home for a year! You will also receive a splendid **Thomas Pack** and become an automatic member of the **Thomas Club** too! Details are on page 7!

MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

There is another way of joining the **Thomas Club** without taking out a year's subscription. Just collect 3 tokens like the one on the bottom of this page. Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** token, together with a stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

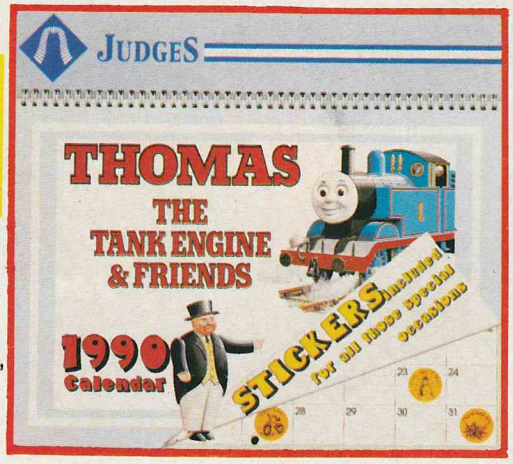
CALLING ALL CLUB MEMBERS!

Answer these three questions correctly and you could win a super prize!

1. What number is Percy?
2. What colour is the Fat Controller's waistcoat?
3. How many stripes does Edward have on his boiler?

The first 10 correct entries picked out of our mailbag will receive a splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** calendar for 1990, from *Judges Postcards Ltd.* There are twelve colourful illustrations on each calendar showing many of your favourite characters, each accompanied by a large calendar grid highlighting key dates – and 'special occasion' stickers which are introduced by the Fat Controller. Send your answers on a postcard together with your name, address and membership number. to:

Thomas's Calendar Quiz, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.



In our next issue: Gordon has trouble with his new timetable!

THOMAS TOKEN

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD**, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX.
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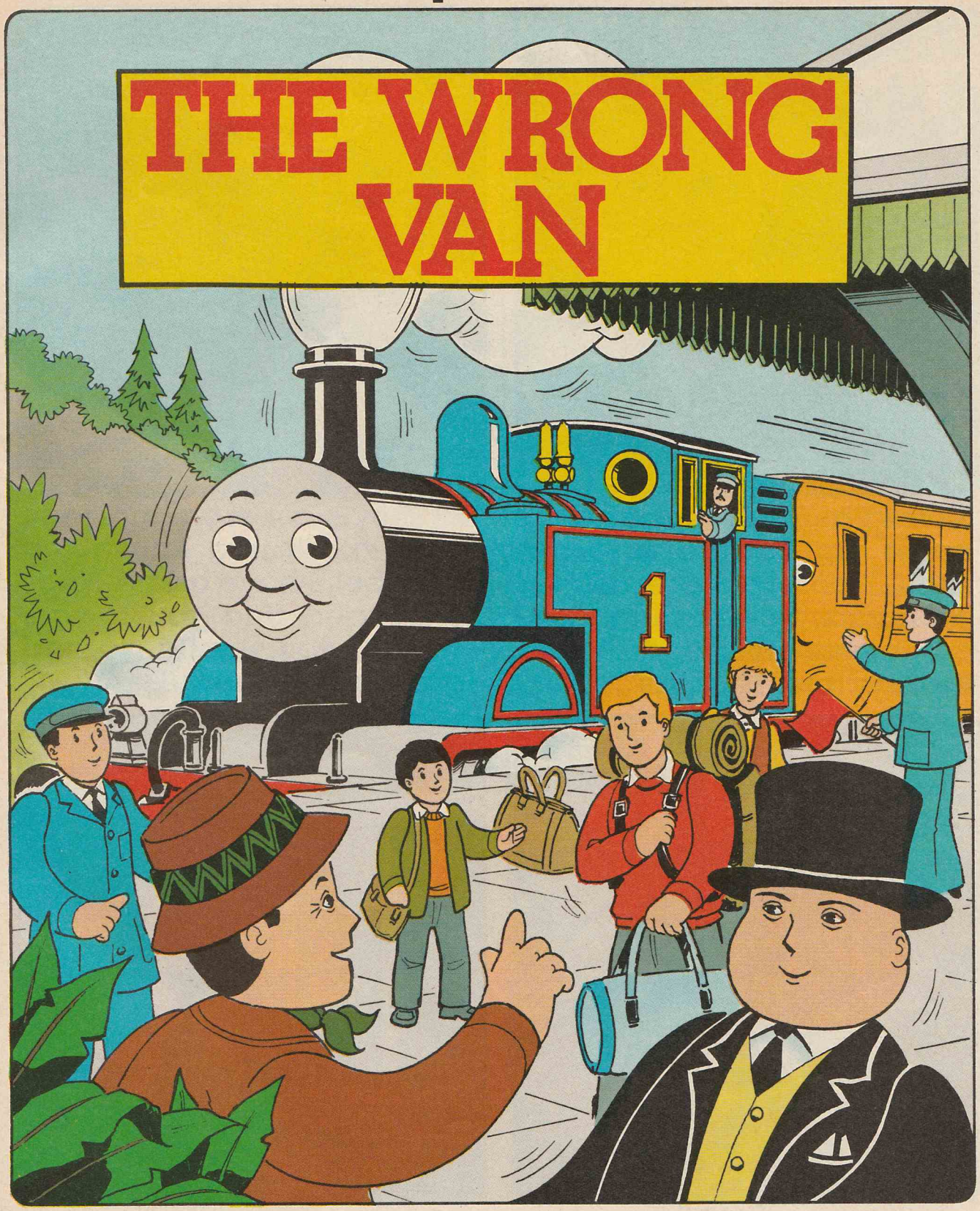
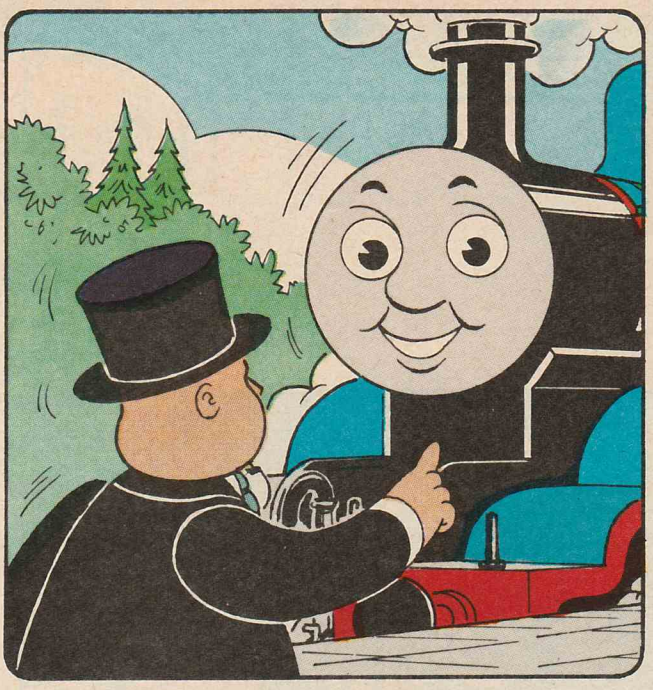
ABC

A listen and look story!

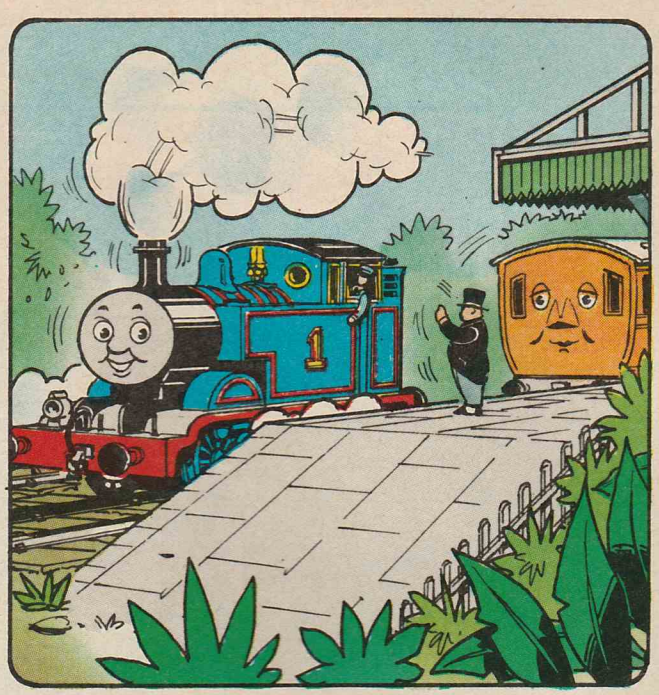


1. One day Thomas arrived at the main station and found it crowded. Thomas always has many passengers, but this time there were even more than usual.

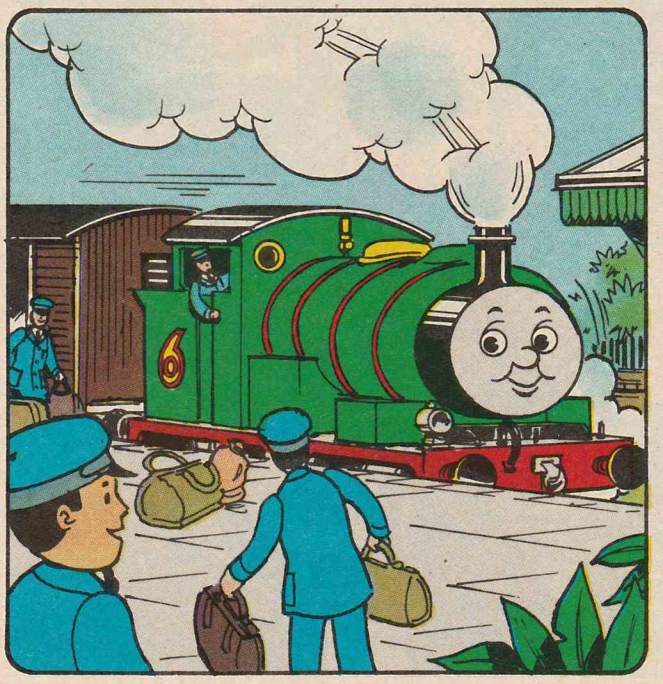
2. Thomas did not recognise any of the people and when he noticed that they all had a lot of luggage he guessed they had come to the Island of Sodor on holiday.



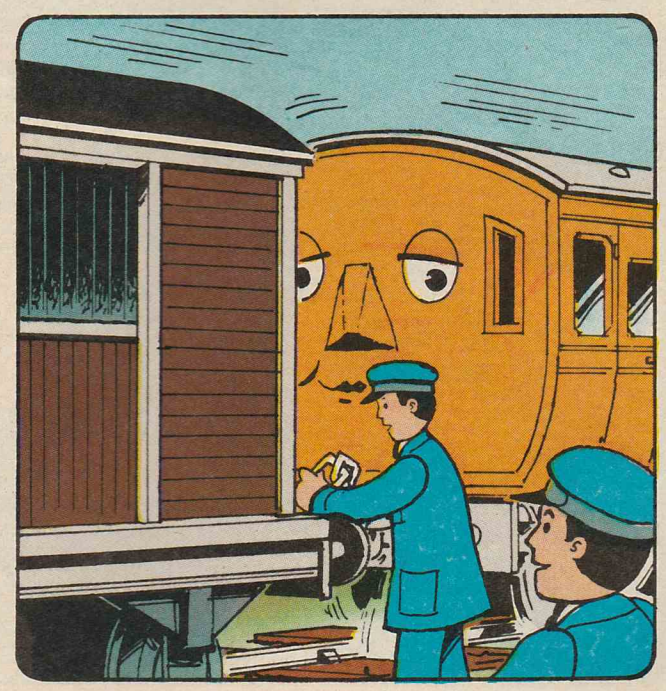
3. The Fat Controller arrived, came up to Thomas and said, "These people are all going for a camping holiday at the other end of your branch line, Thomas."



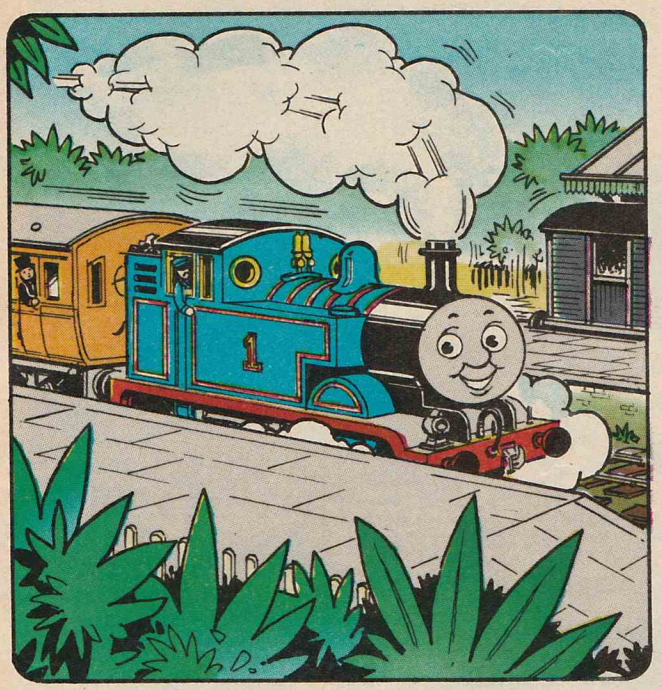
4. "They have more luggage than will fit into Annie and Clarabel. I have asked Percy to go and find you a van. Perhaps you should go and look for one as well.



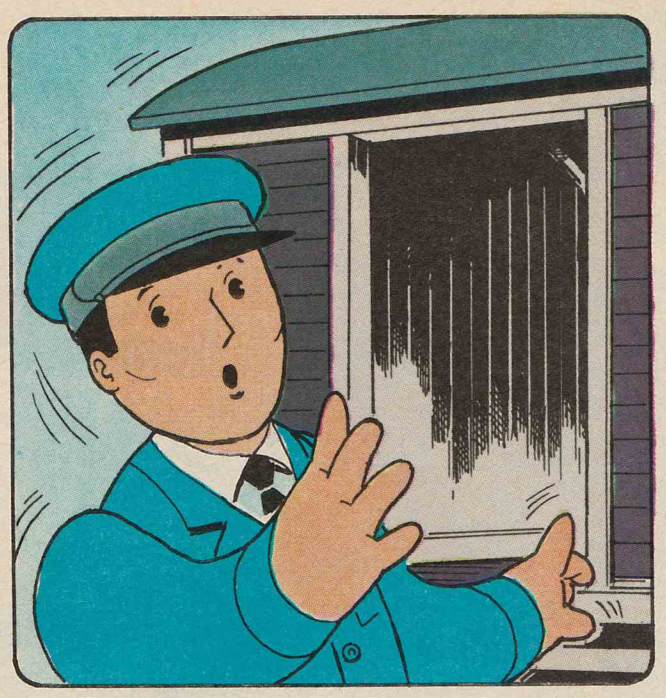
5. So Thomas and his driver went to find a van. While he was away Percy returned with a van. The guard helped the people put all their luggage into it.



6. Then they all got inside Annie and Clarabel. Thomas did not know about Percy's van. He had found another van and his driver coupled it on to the back.

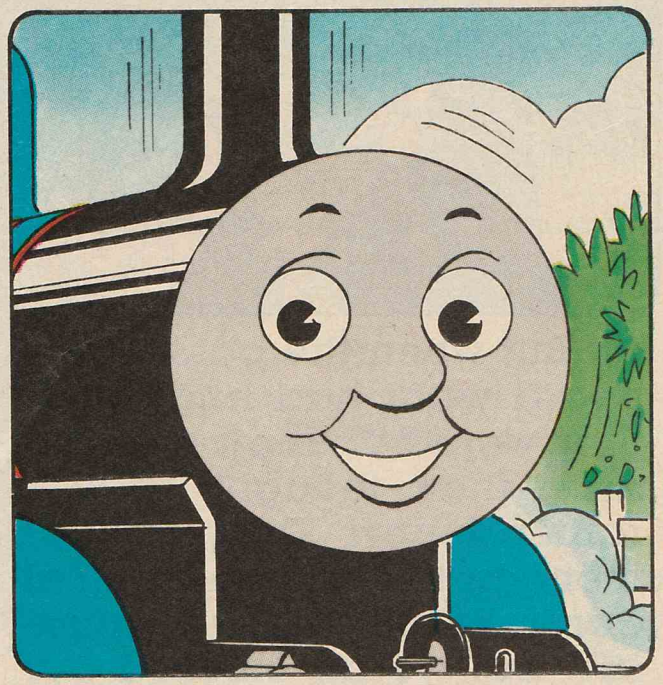


7. Then Thomas went round and back onto Annie. "Is the luggage in the van?" asked Thomas. "Yes," said the Fat Controller, thinking Thomas meant the other van!



8. Thomas set off and puffed along his branch line. When they got right to the other end the passengers got out and the guard opened the luggage van. It was empty.

9. The guard realized there had been a mistake and ran to tell the Fat Controller. He was very cross and Thomas was upset but they both saw it was nobody's fault.



10. "What will the passengers say?" asked Thomas. "We have brought them all the way here and now they will have to wait while I go back and get the other van."

11. But when the passengers heard what had happened they were not at all cross. In fact, they thought it was rather funny! Then one of them came up to the Fat Controller and said, "Excuse me, but we all enjoyed our ride here so much that we would very much like to ride back with Thomas to the main station."

12. "Then Thomas can pick up the other van and we can have a third ride back here!" Everyone thought that was a splendid idea. So Thomas took all the people and the empty van back to the main station, he collected the van full of luggage and then went back to the end of the branch line. Everyone enjoyed all their rides!

THE END

In our next issue: New timetable!

Subscribe to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!

- **HAVE EVERY ISSUE SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR HOME!**
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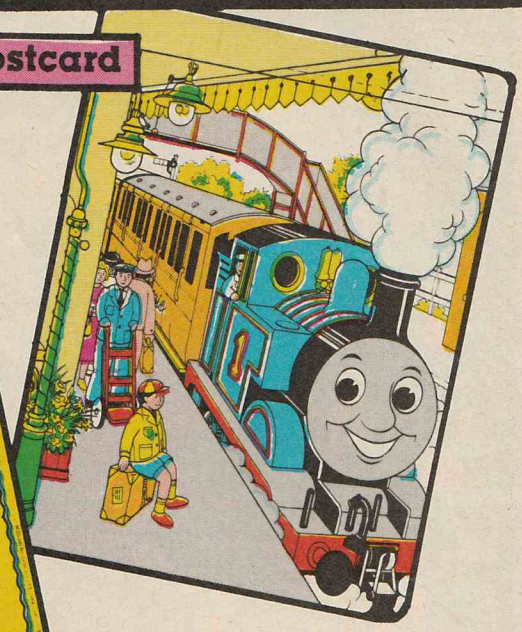
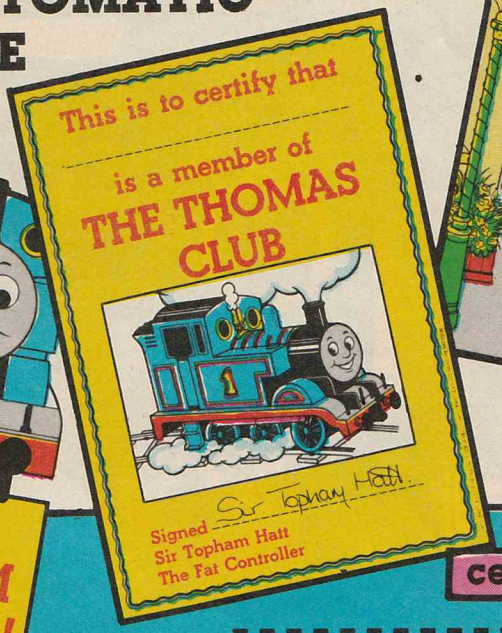
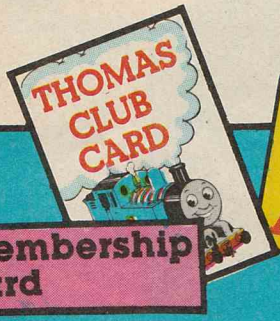
- **RECEIVE A SPLENDID THOMAS PACK!**



postcard



certificate



membership card

door hanger

It costs just **£10.40** to be sent every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine** for a year – and this includes postage and packing. You will also receive our very special subscriber's pack (above). Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for **£10.40** to: *Thomas Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester LE99 0AB*

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£10.40** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the **Thomas Club** if I do not already belong.

Name .....

Age ..... **Birthday** .....

Address .....

.....

My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine is .....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian .....

.....

Thomas Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.

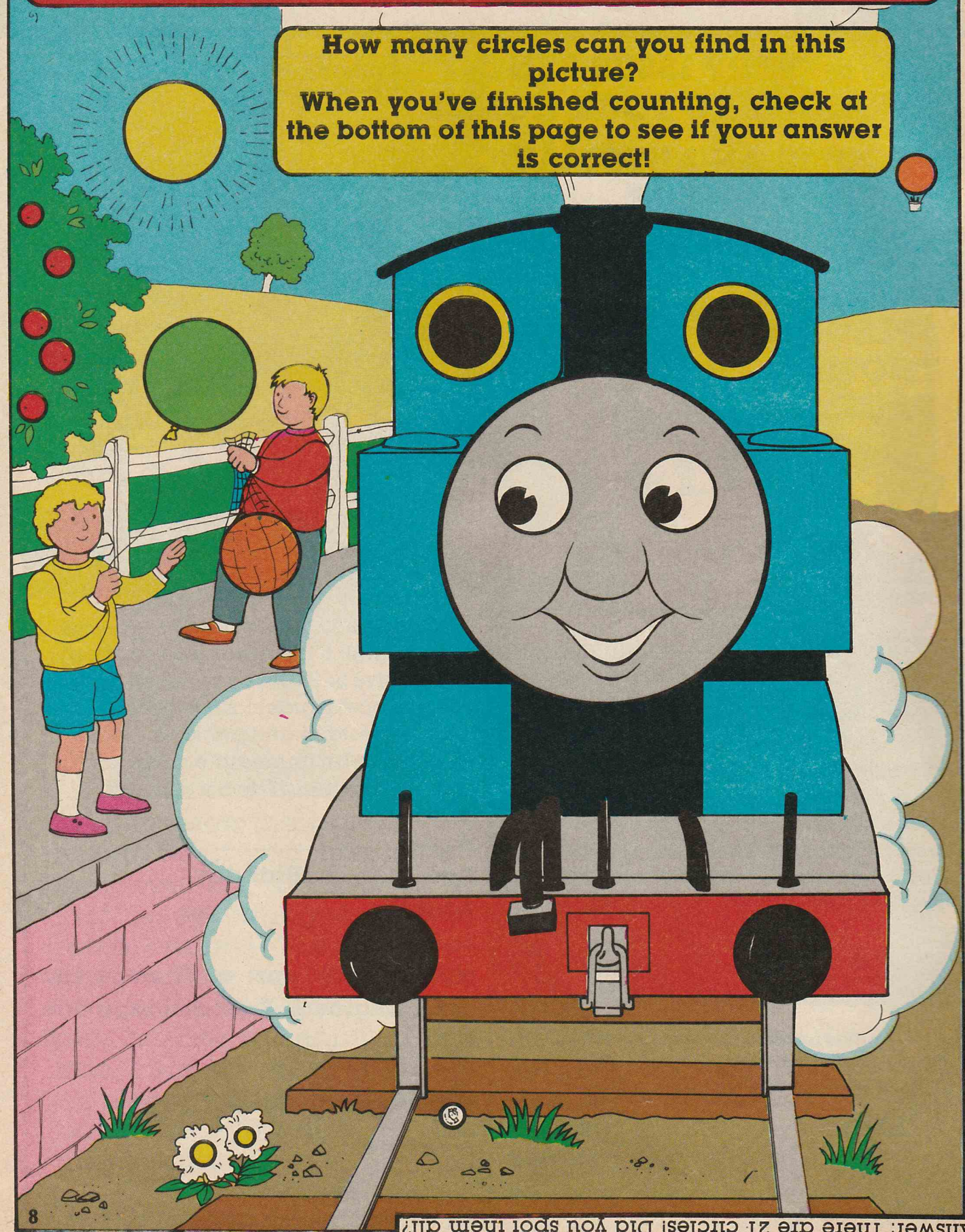
Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and special pack.

Please make your cheque or postal order payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

See Thomas, Percy and James's GERBER FRUIT DRINK PACKS for details of a **£1 DISCOUNT OFFER!** In the shops now!

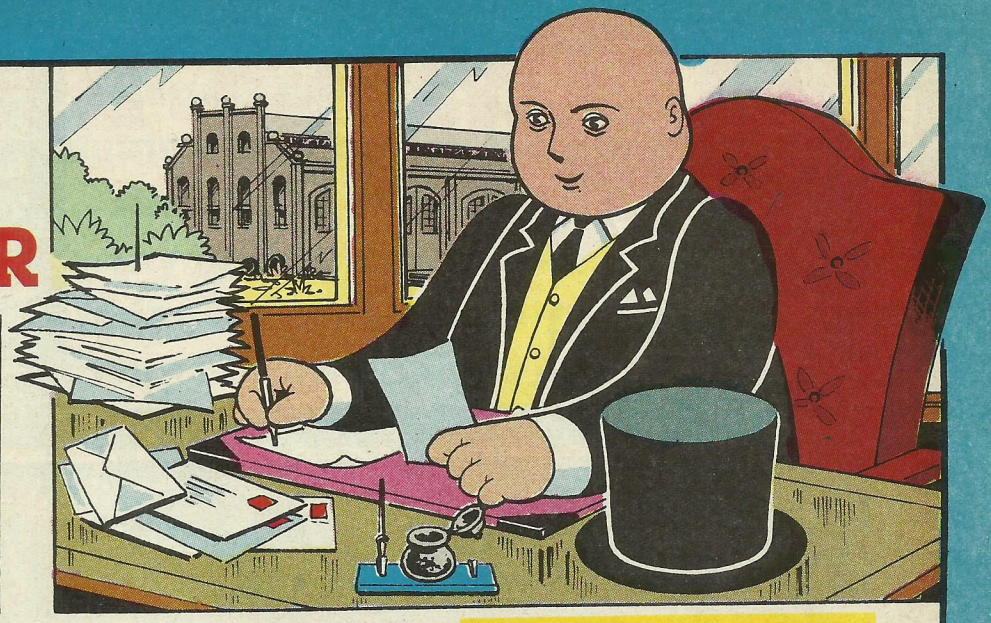
PUZZLE TIME

How many circles can you find in this picture?
When you've finished counting, check at the bottom of this page to see if your answer is correct!



Answer: There are 21 circles! Did you spot them all?

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

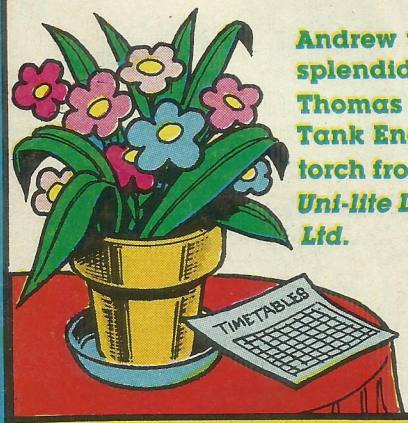
★★★★★★★★★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
The other day my mummy entered a competition for me and I won some tickets to go to a model railway exhibition. I saw all different kinds of engines and enjoyed the day very much!
Love from **Andrew,** aged 6.

I can just imagine what a splendid time you must have had. I also enjoy visiting these wonderful exhibitions whenever I can too, you know!

★★★★★★★★★



Andrew wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine torch from *Uni-lite Leisure Ltd.*

BOUNCING AROUND!

Dear Fat Controller,
I go to the activity centre where I am allowed to play on the trampoline. It's great fun!
From **Matthew,** aged 5.

I seem to remember as a child playing on a trampoline myself. And I must agree that I also enjoyed it immensely.

A CHILLY HEAD!

Dear Fat Controller,
Does your head get very cold in the winter?
From **Sean,** aged 5.

Strangely enough, except for the occasional chill behind my ears, my head stays very warm indeed. I do try to keep my hat on as much as possible though, especially in very bad weather.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Thomas would like to tell you about his brand new monthly learning magazine called **'It's Fun to Learn with Thomas'.** It's packed full of splendid puzzles, stories, interesting facts and lots of things to do and learn. Be sure not to miss your copy! Now on sale.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our very best birthday wishes go out to:

Andrew Crisp (25154), Adam Gibson, Philip Pearlman, Robert Wood (5145), Robbie Marx (29390), Thmas Pawley (6612), Ryan Coyle (6008), Robert Cook, Christopher Plumber, Ian Cooper (24467), James Williams, Nicholas Patchett (2113), Tom Hughes (6782),Richard Williams (30552), Adam Cole (26729), Melvin Armstrong, Neil Mitchell (25314), Paul Hankinson, Claire Chillingworth, Paul Wood (23683), Sean Walsh (26400),Laura Kate Hardiman, Nathaniel Henry Gates and Anthony Sale (15981).

If you'd like a mention, just send details on a postcard please, at least **9 weeks in advance.** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will try our best!

Yours,

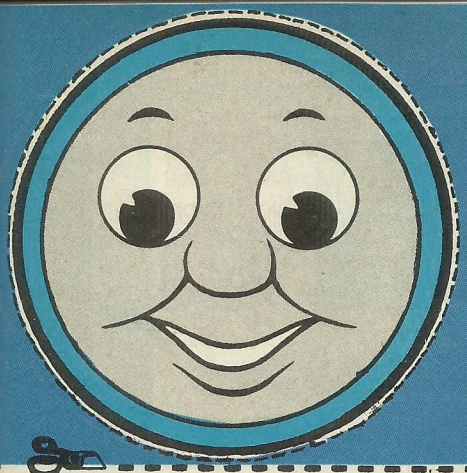
Sir Topham Hatt.

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

THOMAS'S Game Part 1

Welcome to the first part of Thomas's very own dice game. There are four parts to collect altogether – so be sure not to miss the next three issues of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!** Stick this double page on to some thin card, cut the blue border off along the dotted lines, cut out your first counter – and wait for our next issue!



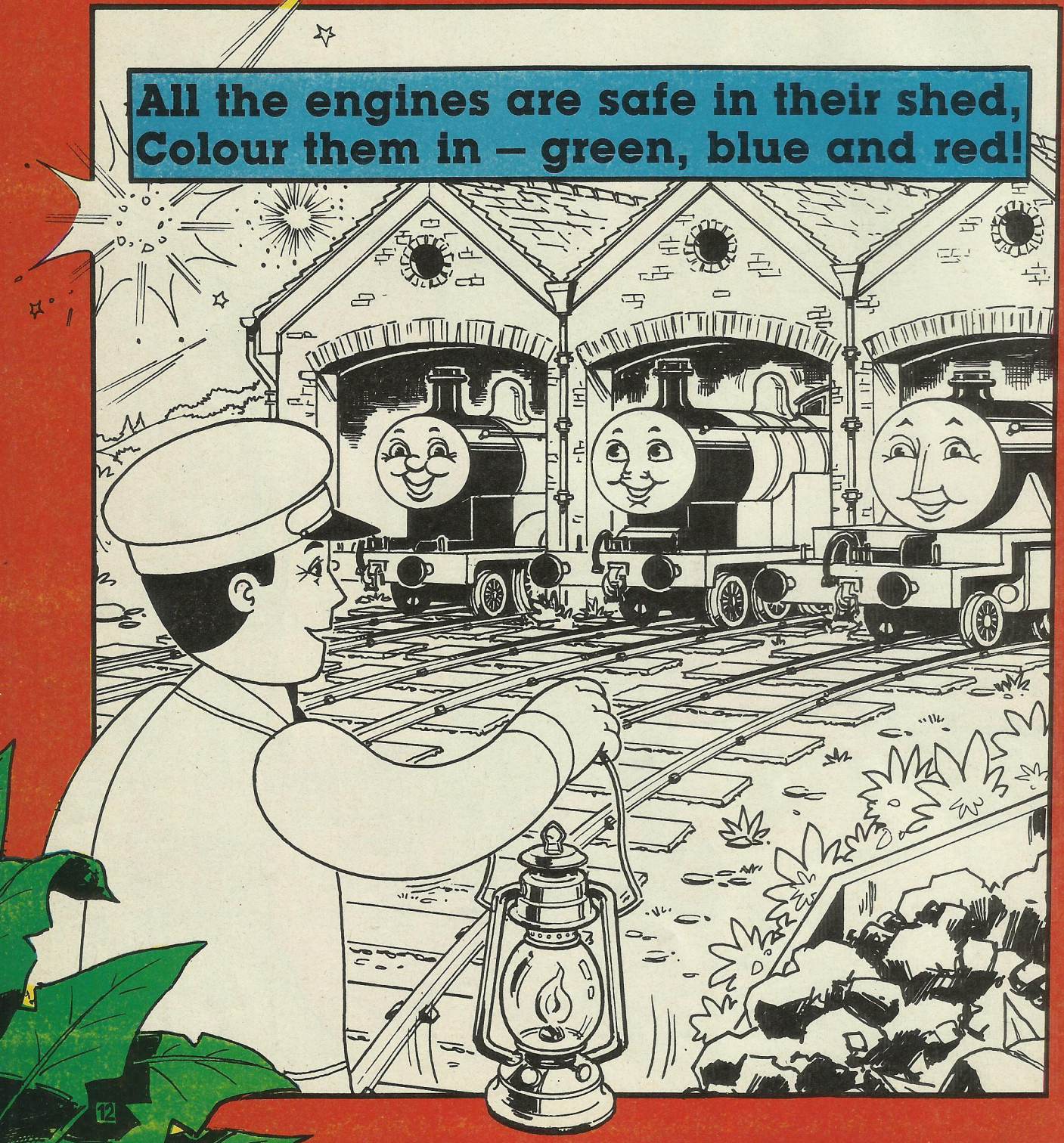
What colour is the kite?
How many ducks are on the pond?
What colour is the flag on the beach?
How many children are making sandcastles?
Point to the ice-cream man!
How many rabbits can you see?

Kite overhead makes you nervous! Miss a turn.

Heatwave buckles track. Go back 2!

COLOURING TIME!

**All the engines are safe in their shed,
Colour them in – green, blue and red!**



COMPETITION

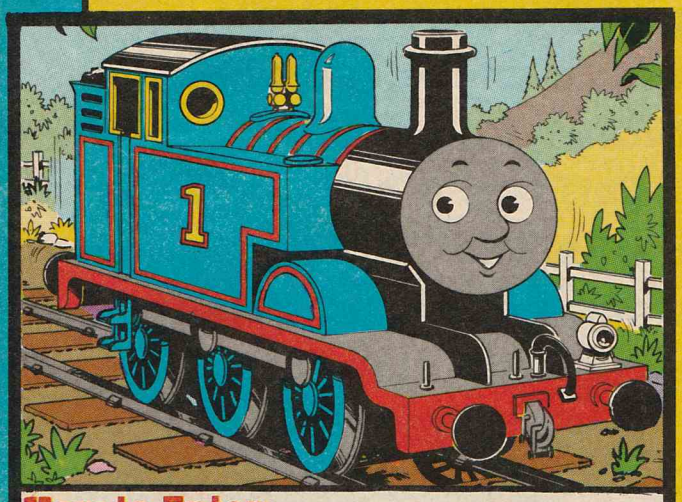
ERTL

SPLENDID PRIZES TO BE WON!

FIRST PRIZE
10 Thomas the Tank Engine remote control toys.

SECOND PRIZE
10 Thomas the Tank Engine playsets.

THIRD PRIZE
50 Thomas the Tank Engine small-scale die-cast models.



How to Enter:
All you have to do is carefully read the 6 questions below, then fill your answers into the grid opposite. Some of the letters are already in place to help you! When you have finished, cut along the dotted line and send your entry to: *Thomas's Puzzle Competition, The Island of Sodor, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

1. Engines arrive here to pick up their passengers.
2. James is this number.
3. They can be very troublesome at times.
4. Percy is this colour.
5. The Fat Controller wears this on his head.
6. Thomas pulls Annie and . . .

ENTRIES MUST REACH US BY 24TH NOVEMBER 1989

Name ..... **Age** .....
Address .....
.....
.....
My favourite engine is .....
Because .....

1		T				O		
2			V					
3				C				
4			E					
5			T					
6		L				B		

The first 70 correct entries pulled from our mailbag will win one of the splendid prizes listed above!

Rules: No employee of ERTL, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd or Marvel Comics Ltd may enter this competition. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

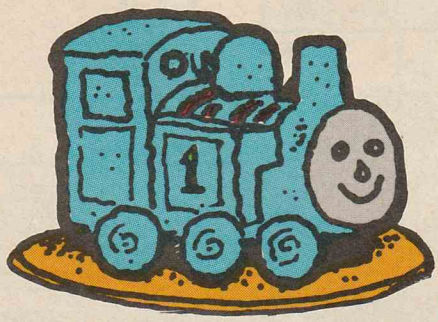
A read-aloud story!

The County Fair

Each morning, Thomas travelled along his branch line, pulling his coaches. His driver always allowed him to stop beside a little cottage to say hello to his friend, old Mrs Kyndley.

"The Sodor County Fair is being held on Saturday at the Vicarage Green," Mrs Kyndley told Thomas one day. "I'm entering the Best Cake contest." She held up a sponge cake, decorated with flowers.

"That's nice," said Thomas. "I hope you win."



cake

Thomas whistled goodbye to Mrs Kyndley. He carried on to collect passengers and return them to the big station at the end of his branch line.

This was a busy time for the engines. The county fair always attracted hundreds of visitors to the Island.

With all this extra work, it was not surprising that he didn't have time to stop at Mrs Kyndley's house until the Friday before the fair. He found the old lady looking very sad.

"I can't enter the cake contest," she told him. "The Vicar's wife has baked a cake with flowers for the contest too. Since her

husband is organising the fair, it wouldn't be right if I entered mine."

Thomas felt sorry for Mrs Kyndley. "Why don't you bake another cake?" he suggested.

"I would," said Mrs Kyndley. "But I can't think of a good design."

Thomas already had an idea. He told Mrs Kyndley all about it.

On Saturday, Thomas spent the day picking up, and dropping off passengers at the Vicarage Green.

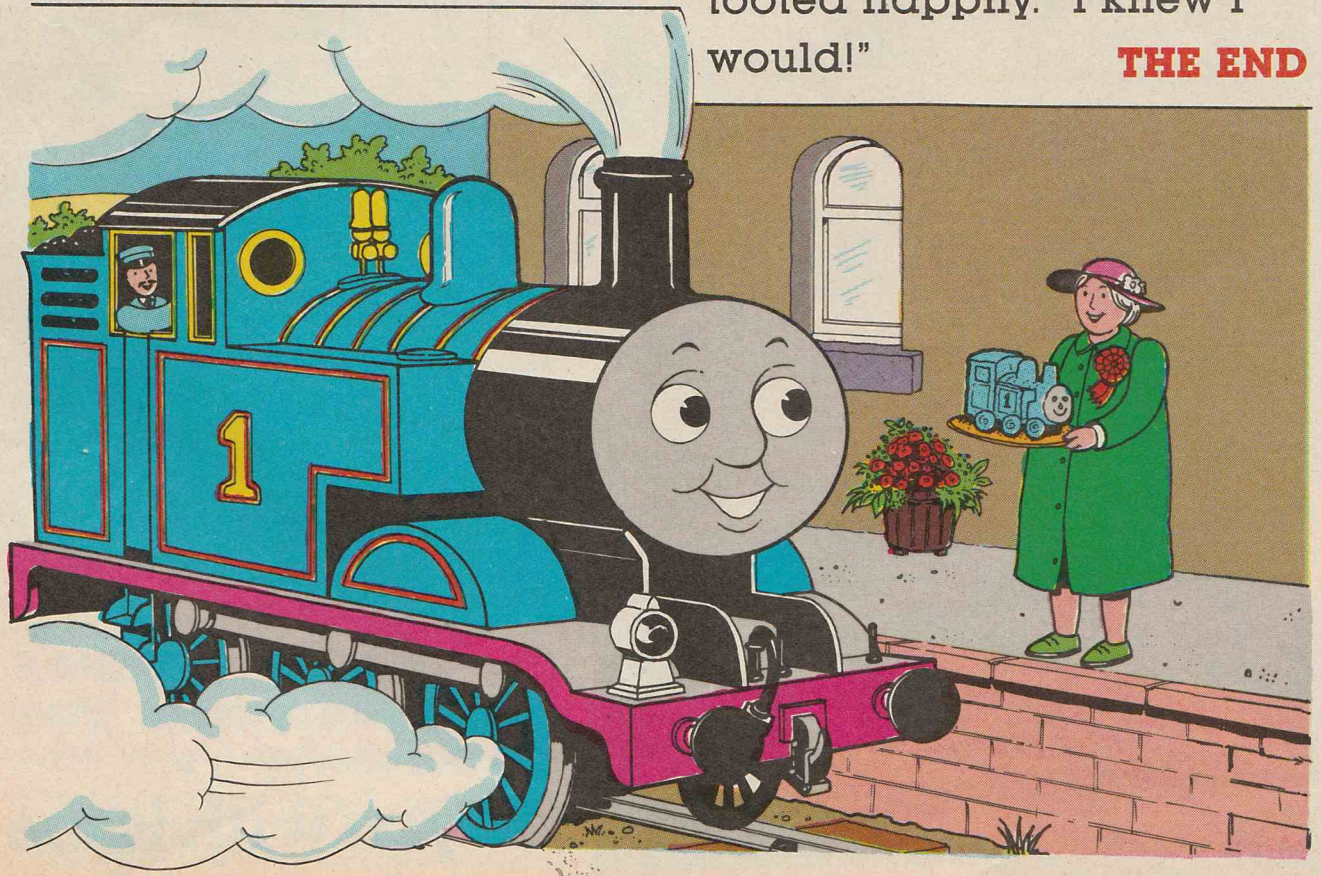
In the afternoon, he found Mrs Kyndley at the station, waiting to be taken home. She wore a big red winner's rosette on her coat.

"My cake won first prize," she said. "Thanks to you, Thomas."

Mrs Kyndley was carrying her prize-winning cake with her. It was made in the shape of a steam engine. Cheeky Thomas had told Mrs Kyndley to bake a cake of himself!

"I win first prize!" he tooted happily. "I knew I would!"

THE END



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Extra fun with Thomas!

The big new magazine full of fun things to learn and find out!

Every month!

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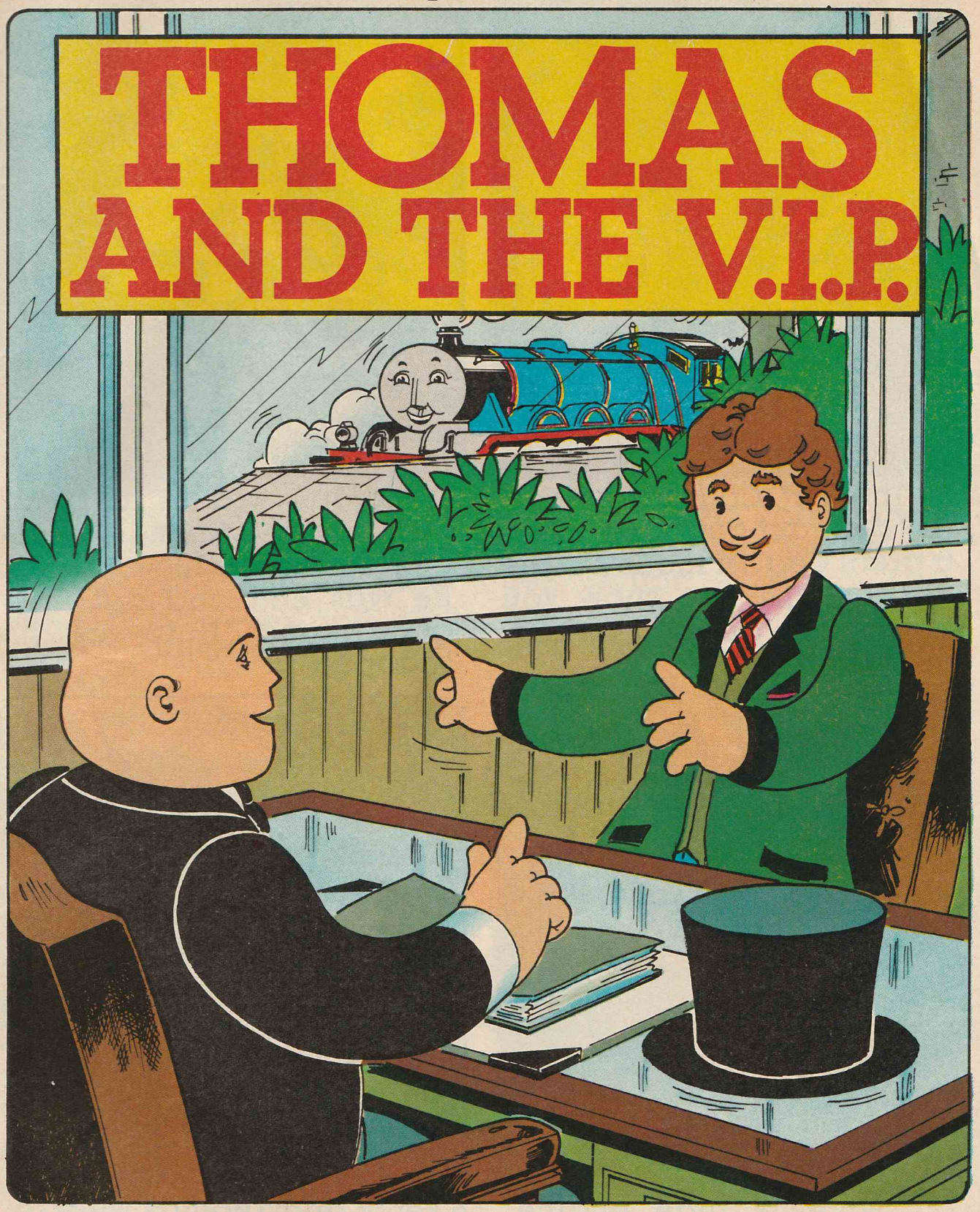
A great big THOMAS STICKER

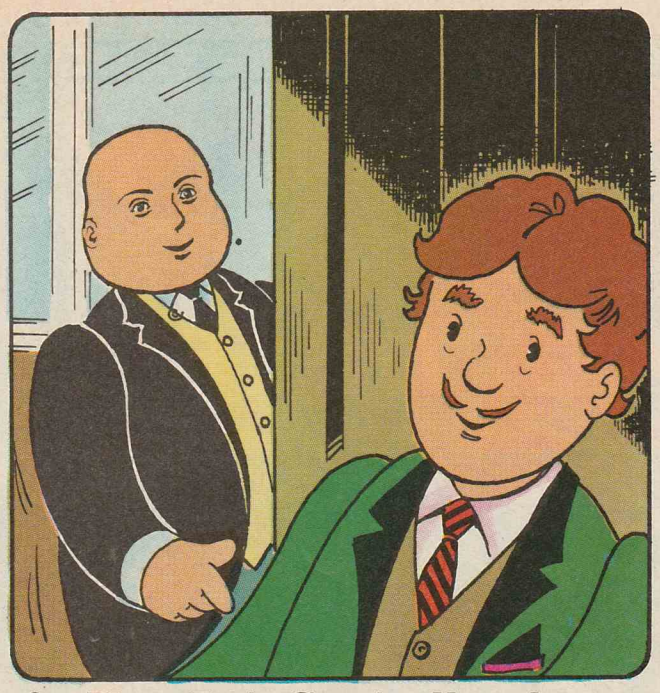
for you with issue 1

A listen and look story!

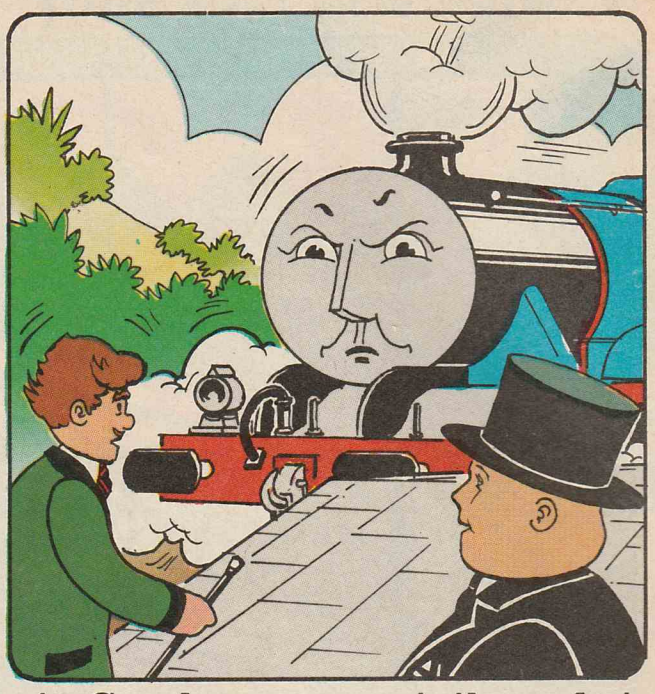


1. The Fat Controller was having a meeting with a very important person. He was the Director of a new factory that had opened on the Island of Sodor.

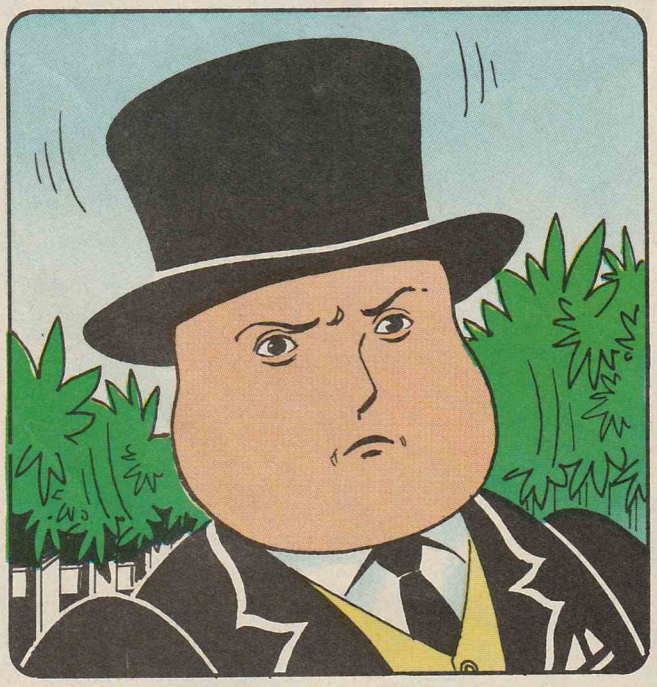
2. "I need my goods delivered to the harbour," said the Director. "But I can't decide whether to give the contract to a road haulage firm, or to the railway."



3. The Fat Controller knew the contract could be worth a great deal of money to the railway. "Let me show you around the station," he suggested.

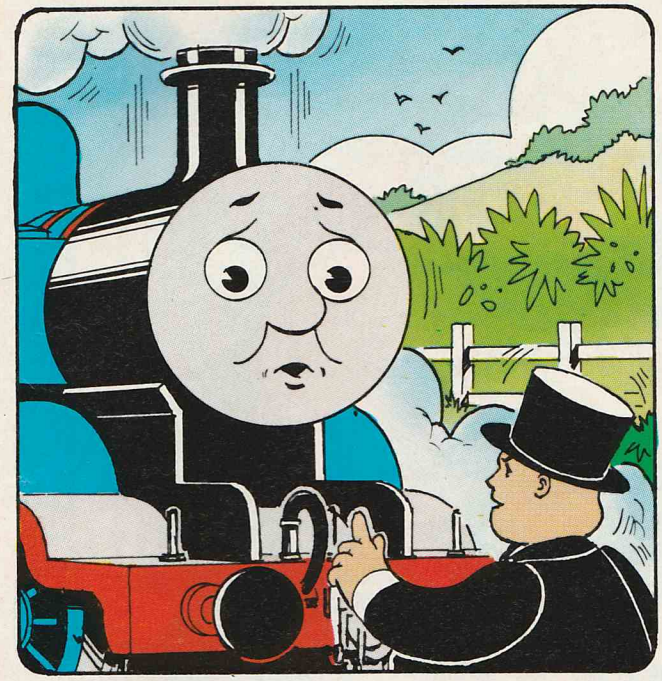


4. Gordon was at the platform, waiting for the passengers to board his coaches. He was hot, and not in a good mood. "Hurry up," he snapped.

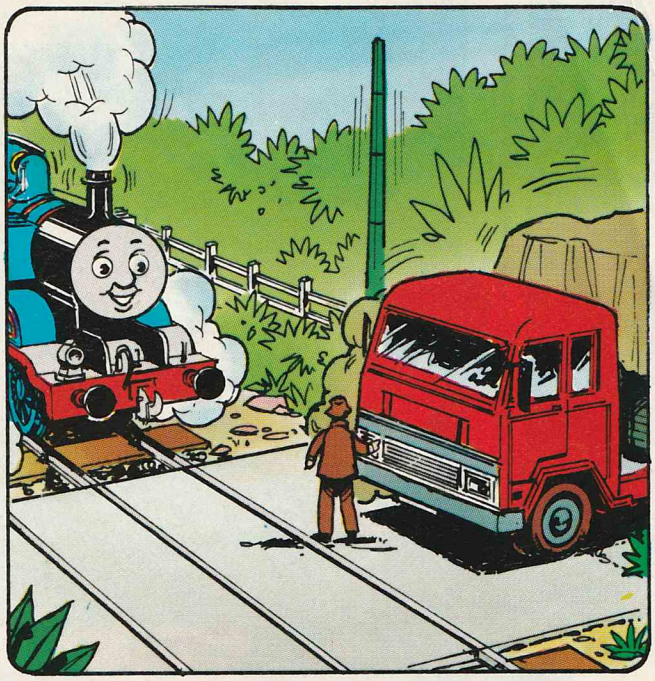


5. "What a rude engine," said the Director. "But a hard-working one," said the Fat Controller quickly. He would scold Gordon later for his rudeness.

6.Percy and Thomas were at the sidings, being cheeky to James. "What a slowcoach," laughed Thomas. The Director thought Thomas was talking about him.



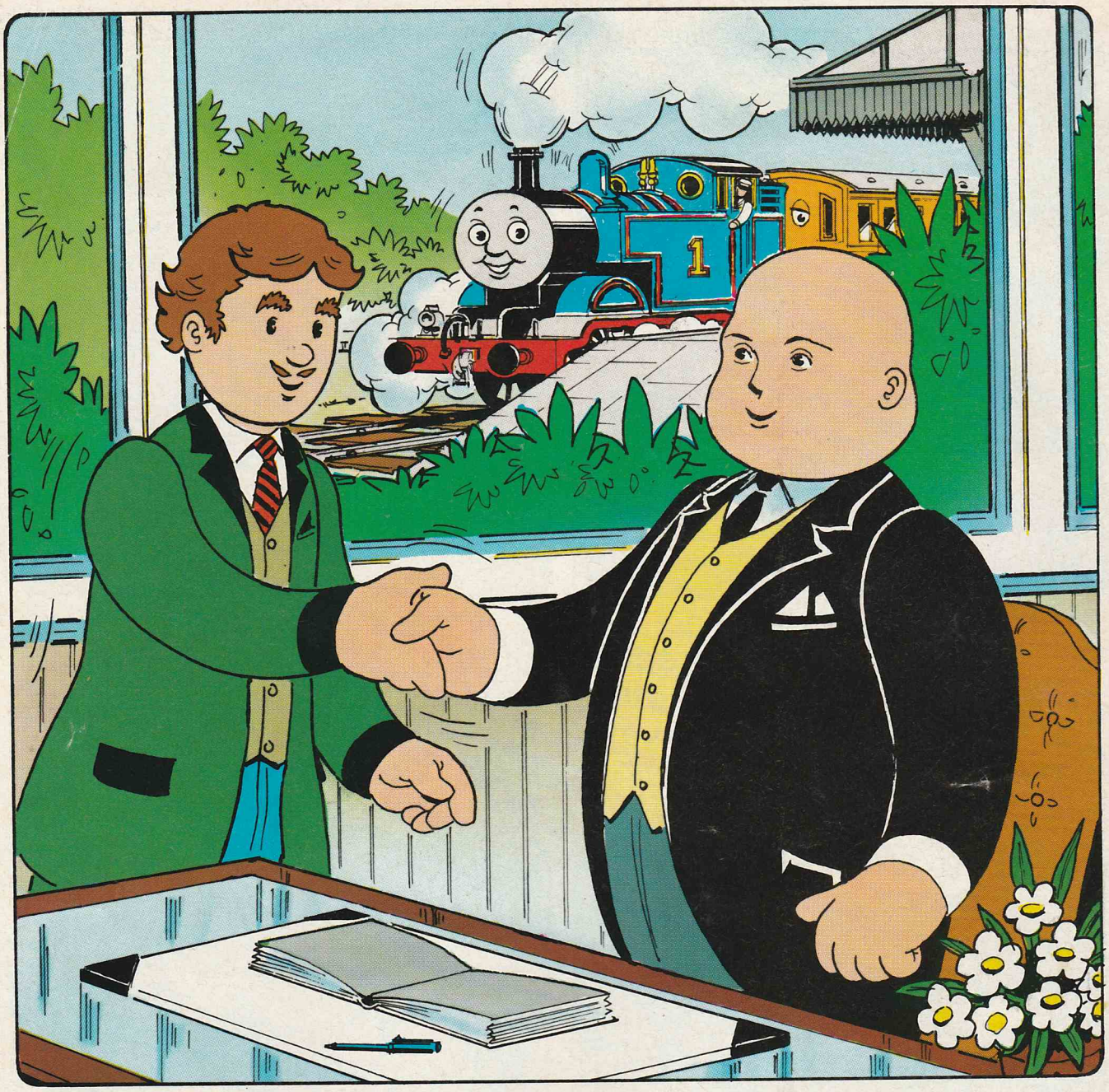
7. "I've decided to send my goods by road," the Director told the Fat Controller later. The Fat Controller was very cross indeed with his engines.



8. A week later, Thomas was pulling his coaches to the next station. He stopped for the signals at a level crossing. On the road, a lorry had broken down.

9. Behind the lorry was a car which was being driven by the Director of the factory. "I shall be very late for an important meeting," he moaned.

10. "Catch my coach at the next station," suggested Thomas. The Director was not pleased about riding with Thomas. He thought Thomas was a rude engine.



11. At the next station, the Director climbed aboard Clarabel, and Thomas set off. He sang as he steamed along. The Director smiled and said, "I like to hear someone who is happy in their work." When they reached the station, Thomas apologised for his rudeness. "I was really talking to my friend James," he explained.

12. The Director was glad to find that he had arrived early for his meeting. The next day, he visited the Fat Controller again. "Thomas saved me from missing an important meeting and was so cheerful, that I have decided to give the contract to the railway instead," he said. The Fat Controller was very pleased indeed.

THE END

In our next issue: Gordon is pushed aside.